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Take Care of Italy.

Italy has been cruelly misrepresented to the allied nations through an apparently incurable ignorance of her condition.
Glib talk about her "half-hearted" part in the war still persists. A general feeling exists that she can be left to shift for herself, now that the Austro-German drive on the Piave and the Asiago Plateau has been halted. Neither in London, Paris or Washington is there true appreciation of what the game little Latin nation is up against.
The fact is that Italy is more sorely in need of supplies now than ever before. She is knocking at the door of the allies in vain for recognition of her just claims. All of them seem to think that Italy can be served after more immediate, and superficially more urgent, needs have been met; and the result is that in the concentration of effort for the Western front, Italy gets practically nothing.
The true story of the Cadorna debacle on the Isonzo has not yet been told, although many writers have intimated it. When it is told the world, more sympathy will be bestowed on the Italians than is given them now, and the fact will shine forth that the armies that almost had Trieste and Laibach in their grip were the unfortunate victims of a miscarriage of plans, a breaking of an agreement, for which they were in no wise responsible.
Now the eye of the world is again shifted from Italy, despite her extremity, and the general assumption is that she is "safe," that the enemy will not be able to pierce the Piave line. The Italian food and supply situation is constantly growing worse; representations are made to the entente governments without adequate response; coal is lacking, despite the fact that the lack of it, with other supplies, may bring a disaster in the spring which will be hailed the world over as the most astounding German victory since the Grand Duke Nicholas was rolled back to the Donahoe.
Italy was on a "bread card" basis as long ago as 1915; her people have been on the edge of famine more than once during the progress of the war; she has borne numerous sacrifices without complaint, and has suffered bitterly from cold, having no adequate supply of fuel. Never has she been at ease about her food supply. She has been regarded as a sort of Cinderella by France and Britain, to be supplied with what they could spare after their own requirements had been fully satisfied.
Yet the greatest importance has been attached to the Italian front, and when Cadorna was smashed last fall, the entente recognized with the gravest alarm what an Italian collapse would mean, following the defection of Russia. Not until there was an imminent danger of Italy being broken and forced out of the war did they respond with a portion of the supplies which had long been promised to the Italian government; and then the damage had been done, although Italian courage brought the Austro-German offensive to a halt far short of what the enemy had calculated upon.
Italy is not asking for anything unreasonable. She is asking for only the plainest food, not being a meat-eating nation; asking for coal, which Britain can spare, or should see the imperative importance of sparing, along with the shipping to transport it to Italian ports. If Italy were a self-sustaining nation, it would be a vastly different situation. But she is not, and she came into the war on a tacit understanding with the allies that her legitimate needs would be taken care of.
The condition of the Italian armies today—to say nothing of the civilian population—merits the closest study from the allied governments if they prize continued Italian participation in the war at its true value. How cruel the veiled insinuations are that Italy "must fight or starve" will be seen in an instant when the true conditions are revealed.

Maybe We're It Some More.

Observe the baker now endeavor to "pass the buck." Chicago bakers are already united in an appeal to the Food Administration to raise the price of bread, on the ground that the victory loaf costs more.
Some of the substitutes suggested do cost more than wheat, and the administration does not definitely provide what the substitute shall be. Looks as if the "buck" were coming our way, all right. If the bakers don't get the raise in price of the loaf they can make even by using a poor substitute.
Happy the man whose wife can—and will—bake the family's bread!

Let the Boche Try It.

Torture for American prisoners of war has really never been focussed or visualized by the American imagination. If, however, we are to face it, we might as well begin early. We ought to have our schooling in it now, so as to grasp the full depths of the Prussian idea, so as to be the better able to control the sentimentality and sirupy optimism which is a part of our national temperament.
It is both easy and difficult to inflame the American mind. We are credulous on some topics and incredulous on others. It is safe to say that the vast majority of Americans, until very recently at least, have doubted to themselves whether the Germans in fact guilty of such atrocities and barbarities as have been repeatedly attributed to them. Unwillingly were they to be convinced that any twentieth century people could show such slavish degeneration, such a relapse to the wild beast principle. They always had a latent skepticism as to whether the full horrors of the cruelties told of the Germans were true.
When, however, they are convinced, and the carriers of all doubt are broken down, they are perhaps more violent and inflammable than any other people in the world. They have a weakness for extremes, for losing self-control, when swept by their feet by some outrage of justice. Therefore, the guess may be hazarded that if in fact the Boches intend to maltreat and torture American prisoners, as reported, they will rue the day they ever inaugurated such a practice. They will have reason to be sorry, indeed, when all the returns are in.

The American is a thorough believer in fighting the devil with fire and will meet the Teuton at his own game, and with good measure thrown in. There need be no recantation of the specific measures of reprisal that will be open to us. Let us be content with saying that there WILL be reprisals. We believe in them; we believe in speaking in the only language that the enemy can understand, and in speaking even a little bit more loudly and more clearly than he does.
Yes, Americans know how to handle a case of this sort. We trust that the Germans will recede from any attempt to torture Americans before it is too late. The supreme uselessness of such a proceeding—its object being to force prisoners of war to give up valuable military information—makes it all the more wrath-inspiring to the American people and the American army. Unless the Teuton has gone utterly mad, let him think twice before plunging into an inferno of this sort.

Now, Isn't it So?

When you analyze the recent Hoover order, you find much that means discipline rather than change from custom. For instance, one meatless meal every day.
Isn't it a fact that very few families have meat on their menu three times a day? Certainly the millions in agricultural pursuits do not. Certainly the very poor do not, because they cannot afford it. Meat three times a day is largely confined to regular patrons of restaurants and hotels, and, really, they are a small proportion of the total of population.
Then we are to have two porkless days each week, leaving five days on which we can consume pork with a clear conscience. Anyone who must have pork more than five times a week was never intended for this intelligent age. Nor does the order for two porkless days demand much change in general custom.
Actually, it is only that part of the order applying to wheatlessness that smacks of revolution, and our brains tell us that there are a lot of first-class substitutes for wheat.

Comes Easy, When You Think.

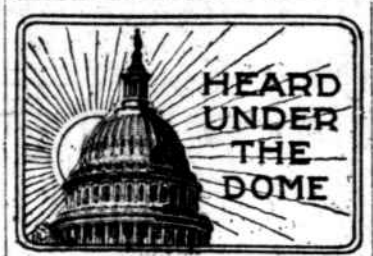
"A half-dozen of your nice white wheat cakes, Mother," says Dad, sitting down to breakfast.
"Wheatless day; but here's some hot corn cakes," says Mother.
And, on the way down to the office, Dad thinks on corn, like this:
Corn was the pioneer American crop and is still the one cereal crop in which America leads the world. The early voyagers took back to Europe ears of corn as a curiosity. Our Pilgrim fathers almost lived on corn. Corn was the first crop planted in all the virgin soil as it was settled, from the Atlantic to the broad prairies and beyond. Those who cleared off the forest and brush put in corn first thing, and so it goes to this day.
There is hardly a domestic animal but it thrives best on corn. In mush form, it is better for even pups and kittens than meat. As a life-saver or a flesh-builder, it comes next to milk, which alone is both meat and drink.
And it will help win a world's war!
"Mother, some more of those hot corn cakes, please! I'm beginning to eat with my brains," says Dad, next breakfast time.
A gunless robber has been holding up New York cigar dealers by simply pointing his finger at them. Folks with an active subconsciousness put their hands up readily.
Hoarding of hides by meat packers has caused most of the rise in prices of shoes. Here's a fine target for Chamberlain, Roosevelt and those other fellows who are full of smokeless powder.
Austria's foreign minister says he agrees with President Wilson, but he'll stick by Germany. Guess he will, since Germany is financing Austria. Every foreigner loves the money-loaner, nowadays.

In Case of a Tie.

That statement was fully borne out when Chamberlain arose before packed galleries in a chamber whose standing room was crowded with visitors from the House. Beginning with a simple statement of the issue between himself and the President, the Oregon leader proceeded to talk for three hours without any apparent oratorical plan or striving for superficial effect.
His voice often sank so low as to be inaudible to the galleries. At times he selected groups of his colleagues and addressed them in conversational tones. At such a time one member interrupted: "Will the gentleman please raise his voice?" To which Vice President Marshall quickly added: "And if the gentleman continues to address the rear of the chamber the presiding officer will not know what he has said."
Senator Chamberlain turned slowly toward the Vice President, raised his right hand above his head, and smilingly responded:
"The presiding officer has no vote!"
"Unless there should be a tie," corrected Senator Vardaman.
"There is not going to be a tie," retorted Chamberlain. "We are going to be buried alive or we are going to win with a big vote."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

In a Y. M. C. A. Hut.

(Harold Seton in Leslie's.)
"SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE."
Tom and Bill are shooting craps, Dick is busy chewing gum, Fred and Joe are taking naps, Bert is looking rather glum, Jim is brushing off his coat, George is shining up his shoes; These are just some things I note— While I'm writing home to you!
Willie's at the gramophone, Tom is smoking, blowing rings, Nick is playing cards alone, Reginald quite sweetly sings, Eddie whistles with his knife, Gee, we are a mixed up crew! What a funny thing is life!— I am writing home to you!
Each of us has got a girl, Each the other likes to chaff, Archibald displays a curl, Sam displays a photograph, But there's not a one, I swear, Half so sweet as the girl I love, As my sweetheart, over here— So I'm writing home to you!



Much misinformation has gone forth with regard to the Senate Military Committee's estimate of Secretary Baker.

Some of the misinformation has been spread by special correspondents whose duty it is to defend Cabinet members in front page features.
Some of it comes from friends of Secretary Baker who want to attribute questionable motives to those who are honestly trying to improve our war machine against Germany.
The position of the Military Committee, therefore, should be made known, according to patriots in both parties, at the Capitol.
In the first place Senator Chamberlain has never suggested the removal of Secretary Baker. Neither has any Senator. Neither has any member who had a hand in drafting either the munitions directorship or the war cabinet legislation.
The members have repeatedly said that they are not trying to get rid of Mr. Baker, but to take a load off his shoulders.
They want to make the war work more efficient because it is impossible for one man to conduct it, and do it successfully. The Military Committee has taken the position all along that individuals should not be made the goats of their inquiry.
The committee have insisted that out of their extensive inquiry into affairs should come not the harping upon trifling details or petty fault-finding, but an account of small things gone wrong.
These committee men wanted to bring forth, as a result of this hearing, big principles which could be woven into our war fabric and make it stronger, better to help us in our fight against the foe.
The trouble has not been so much with men here and there, as with the system. This is what the military committee insist—and that is what they have written into the two bills which it appears a majority of the committee will support.

The pleas of demagogues that big business is interfering, or that big business is interfering, or that big business is interfering, is all wrong—foolishness of the most lurid variety. Men who shout their opposition to it have other opposition which they are not willing to have brought out into the daylight.
The war cabinet bill may not contain the plan of reorganization that will eventually come. But some plan is bound to come. The bill is directed toward one goal—that no one will deny—but they are running wild, and the innocent bystander could not tell from where he is that they are shouting their opposition to it. Seriously, a time to consider the matter—and the matter will be considered, we may be quite sure. The people are impressed with the doctrine that principles and not men shall be altered just now—it is a bigger task than remodeling men to meet our vast problem. We have to remodel our policies and will have to be about the task very soon.

With all the ardor that typifies the idealist Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, is seeking to have Congress speak its mind on our peace aims. The effect, he thinks, will be good on the other side of the water. The President has done well, according to Senator Owen, but what is needed as a supplement is the concrete expression of those who represent the great body of American citizenship.
But Senator Owen finds little encouragement just now. His document, strongly worded that it is, is another declaration of independence, but may not be so readily adopted as was the latter document.
Just now word is awaited from the White House as to what the President wants done with the Owen resolution. It is thought by some of the members that inasmuch as the President is charged with the duty of telling our war aims—and has done so two or three times—his effort may be considered to be sufficient for the time being, especially in view of the fact that the President's statement finds such general indorsement at the hands of the American people.
Several months ago when Congress was pondering over the matter of making a succinct, appealing statement to the people, the Owen resolution, it is believed by some of the members, would have

A LINE O' CHEER EACH DAY O' THE YEAR.
By John Kendrick Bangs.

Life is so full of diverse views, And roads that lead to everywhere, The which each one of us must choose
If so or not we travel there, I cannot find it in my heart To quarrel with that chump hard by Who plods along and does his part
In ways distasteful to my eye. He may be right as right can be. And just as long as he's sincere And does not interfere with me, With him I shall not interfere.
(Copyright, 1918.)

been singularly effective. In fact it might have been necessary then. But it appears that not many members think it is just now.

Extraordinary activity between the Senate battle lines on the suffrage question makes some of the newspaper men think some new move is contemplated just now. But as the friends of suffrage said some time ago they will not push the battle until they are sure of winning. The effort is not one to carry the women of the nation vote, but to secure a two-thirds vote of the Senate membership in favor of the proposal. Affirmative votes are all that count, therefore, the men who are absent from against the amendment just now, and voted against it. The anti-suffrage sixty-three votes—the number to carry the proposal—are not to be had just now. And they are not, according to their poll.

There are several members of the Senate trying with all their wits to figure out what way the women of the country at large are likely to vote if these members should happen to oppose suffrage, and later become recipients for very high honors at the hands of the people of the country. In other words, some of the prospective Presidential candidates are wondering what the women of the nation would do if they voted against the bill. They are holding the proposition first in one hand and then in the other, for it is a very hot one. It will be interesting to see the result of the suffrage vote in this select circle of Presidential prospects.

Unwittingly Dave Lawrence points out that Secretary Baker "wrote" to President Wilson that he would be glad to step down and out if his incumbency of the war secretaryship embarrassed the President, etc. And the President "wrote" a letter in reply the same day, so we are told. On such an important matter as this—important at least to the Secretary—he might have asked the President for a fifteen moment talk. Certainly the President could have been his secretary for that brief space of time.

There is no likelihood that Mr. Penrose will press his resolution to inquire into George Creel's vivid picture of the Fourth of July en masse which some of our troops ships had with submarines. The truth of that affair has been laid before the people and it is believed by the Pennsylvania Senator's friends that he will not endeavor to pursue it farther. The rumor at the Capitol is that Mr. Creel hates the matter just as much as some of his friends do, and that as a humanitarian act Mr. Penrose could ingratiate himself with Mr. Creel by sitting still, and saying nothing when the resolution is spoken of in the Upper House.

THE OBSERVER.

OPHELIA'S SLATE.



NEW YORK DAY BY DAY
By D. O. Reardon.

New York, Feb. 1.—Chorus girls, chorus men, vaudeville performers on the big and little time lost a valuable friend in the death of June McCree.

McCree was himself an actor. His portrayal of "The Dope Fiend" was one of the best hits ever contributed to the American stage. Back of his humor there was engendered a sympathy for the drug addict that perhaps has done more than much well intended propaganda.
Of late years June wrote vaudeville skits, supplied jokes and "stage business" for the Thespian world. He made a big amount of money, but he couldn't keep it. No stranded actor ever wiped June McCree from the wilds of a tank town without getting a ticket by return wire to New York.

His working desk was littered with I. O. U.'s. A chorus girl or a chorus man in trouble went to June McCree. He always had some way out. He had a fund of cherry philosophy and his sketches of "Happy Neely, a piffawer" keenly portrayed the theatrical boarding house life.
He was born in Toledo, Ohio, and like Fred Stone, started his stage career by running away with a circus. He knew the night life of Broadway and its pitfalls and stood always with a helping hand.
He got his material for "The Dope Fiend" from a character in real life that browsed about a famous all night drug store in Eighth avenue. The drug store fiend was a broken down actor who slept all day and at night he amused the drug store loafers with his fanciful dreams.

So far as the police vagrancy records go there is only one Chinese mendicant in all New York. He is known as Old Horse and Wagon and he has been in the city for years. Years ago a Chinese crying "Horse and Wagon! Horse and Wagon!" panted into a police station. The sagacious police sensed a lunatic, and the strange fellow was sent to Bellevue's psychopathic ward. There it developed that his horse and wagon, his means of livelihood had been stolen, and he was merely trying to tell it as best he knew how.

He was set free with the name "Horse and Wagon" securely attached. He has never worked since and for years has stood outside Barney Flynn's Chatham Square Saloon, taking an elaborate patterned parquetry floor, soiled now into uniformity, giving token of dead grandeur.
His dinner cost 40 cents—has cost the same for many years. The war has come and other tea rooms have raised their prices but his price is the same. She hovers, a slight, gray-haired figure in skimp black over the stand where he takes and pines are dispensed.
She has been asked sometimes why she does not raise her prices. For answer she nods her head toward one or two three old couples who sit dining frugally in the dim light of the room. Other firms along the Atlantic coast also are preparing to put shark meat on sale.

The Department of Commerce last night announced that a substantial demand for shark meat was expected to develop. Its consumption is urged as a war ration.

Smoked Shark Meat Is Latest Dish Produced To Aid Meatless Menus

Smoked shark meat soon will make its appearance on American menus. A Florida fisherman has mastered the art of smoking the flesh of the "tiger of the sea" and now is prepared to attend a banquet on the Chicago Atlantic coast also are preparing to put shark meat on sale.
The Department of Commerce last night announced that a substantial demand for shark meat was expected to develop. Its consumption is urged as a war ration.

Army and Navy News
Best Service Column in the City

Lieut. Col. Samuel M. De Loffre and Lieut. Col. William A. Duncan, U. S. A., retired, have been assigned to active duty in Washington. Lieut. Col. De Loffre has been assigned to duty in the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps at 613 G street northwest, and Lieut. Col. Duncan has been placed on duty at the Walter Reed General Hospital at Takoma Park.
Lieut. Col. De Loffre is a native of Washington. He was born here May 7, 1875. He graduated from Ohio State University with the degree of A. B. in 1895, and from the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of M. D. in 1899.
He was appointed an assistant surgeon in the army from the District in September, 1902. A year later he was the honor graduate from the Army Medical School here. He was promoted to captain in the Medical Corps in 1907, and a few years later made major and then lieutenant colonel.
Lieut. Col. Duncan was born in Kentucky, March 31, 1877. Graduating from Vanderbilt University with the degree of M. D. in 1903, he was made an assistant surgeon in the army in May, 1904. He was honor graduate and medalist of his class in the Army Medical School here, graduating in 1905. He was made a first lieutenant in the Medical Corps in May, 1906, and captain in 1908.

Maj. George S. Miller and Maj. William H. Wardwell, Signal Corps of the Army, have been assigned to duty in this city and ordered to report to the chief signal officer here.
Maj. John A. Pearson, Cavalry, U. S. A., has been ordered to the Walter Reed General Hospital in Takoma Park, for observation and treatment.
Maj. Pearson is a native of Tennessee, where he was born November 20, 1876. He was appointed to the Military Academy from that State, and graduated from there in 1900. He was assigned as a second lieutenant in the Eleventh Cavalry. Four years later he was made first lieutenant with the Seventh Cavalry. He was transferred to the Eleventh Cavalry, his original command, in 1910.

Reuben Hill has been appointed a major in the Ordnance Officers' Reserve Corps, War Department, and ordered yesterday. Maj. Hill has been ordered to report in person to the chief of ordnance, 120 F street, this city, for duty.
Lieut. Col. Leonard M. Farrell, of the National Guard of the United States, has been promoted to be a colonel in the same service, his rank dating from January 11, 1915, the War Department announced yesterday. Col. Farrell has been ordered to report to the commanding general, Fortieth Division, Fort Kearsy, Fortieth Division, for assignment.
Maj. James H. Dickey, Quartermaster Corps, has been relieved from duty with the corps and assigned to the Sixth Cavalry. He will join his new regiment at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Maj. Dickey was appointed to the Military Academy in 1901 from Kentucky, where he was born April 12, 1885. He was commissioned and assigned as a second lieutenant with the Fourth Cavalry in 1905. He graduated from the Mounted Service School in 1907, and was promoted to first lieutenant and a few years later to captain and a short time ago to his present rank.

Among officers assigned to duty in this city yesterday by the War Department are Maj. Louis B. Wilson, Medical Reserve Corps, ordered to duty in the surgeon general's office and Capt. William E. Hutton, Jr., Ordnance Reserve Corps, office of chief of ordnance; Maj. Richard Hurd, Engineer Reserve Corps, general engineering depot; Capt. Howard A. Manning, Quartermaster Corps, assigned to duty as a quartermaster general's office, and Capt. Alexander D. McConachie, Jr., Aviation Section, Signal Officers' Reserve Corps, chief signal officer here.

Col. George H. Estes, U. S. Infantry, Lieut. Col. James M. Graham, Infantry, national army, and Maj. Guy C. Williams, Cavalry, have been assigned to General Staff duty and ordered to report to the chief of staff here. They have been appointed "for the period of the present emergency."

Lieut. Col. Douglas L. McKay, ordnance, national army, has been relieved from duty in the office of the chief of ordnance and ordered to report to Col. Palmer E. Pierce, General Staff, Army War College.

Lieut. Col. William E. Horton, Quartermaster Corps, one of the former District National Guard officers, has been relieved from duty in the office of the quartermaster general here, where he has been stationed for several years past, and assigned to duty as a quartermaster in the depot quartermaster in San Francisco.

Sly Shots at the Solons.
By THE OBSERVER.

At last we have an account of Tumulty and Creel conferring over a governmental policy. What an ideal man could be made of Tumulty's diplomacy and resourcefulness and Creel's knowledge of publicity and desire to play up the "human interest" stuff.
Down in St. Louis they are wondering if the Sherman resolution to investigate the causes of the East St. Louis riots is to have serious attention in the Senate or whether it will be allowed to die because of the fear of tackling the race question.

Canute Nelson, of Minnesota, comes forward as the friend of lighthouse keepers (you will note the first two words are joined, not the last two). What is needed is a man who will now befriend the light housekeepers. Both have problems so it is recalled on the hill.

The House is wrestling with the oil bill, and despite the violent assaults of Mr. Briarbane several perfectly good friends of society at large plan to go ahead and support the measure. Mr. St. Lawrence, about the desirability of this legislation, from the Standard Oil viewpoint, appear not to have weighed heavily on the members' minds.

One way to democracy is pointed out by a member who learned that the judge-advocate general's office wanted to find a private in the army sufficiently drilled in the law and qualified to hold a position, to elevate to a majorship. The only bar to this unusual action was the fact that no such qualified young man could be found as a private. Hence a perfectly good commission had to go to a commissioned officer.

Stock watering privileges are asked of the Senate by Meyer, of Montana—but radicals need not focus their furtive gaze on this story expecting a serious disclosure. The Meyer bill relates to live stock, not to New "Heaven" stock under the old regime.

It would not be right or proper for any man, however powerful, to suggest that ALL discussion of a principle in the operation of our internal affairs should be summarily stopped at the behest of our legislative body. That is a serious encroachment upon the prerogatives of free speech, very serious. It is un-American to the very core.

Several members of Congress now find that careless Germans who neglected to attend to their citizenship, but who have completely disassociated themselves from Germany and its pernicious ideals, are now anxious to secure exemption from the alien enemy act. There are hundreds of these Germans who are loyal to the core, it is claimed, and they now see their mistake in not coming completely into Uncle Sam's fold.
The statement has just been made on the hill that Tom Watson, of Georgia, is responsible for the election of Senator Hardwick. This fact, and the fact that the Senator has had some responsibility of his own for six years past, nearly, are to be weighed in the coming fall election.

The farmer is becoming increasingly important in the war equation and the eyes of the world are being turned upon the farming States of this nation. President Wilson's statement to those who make farming successful is therefore a message to those who must save us this year.
Another conference was held at the White House, Good. As these affairs grow more frequent there will be less friction between the executive and the legislative branches. And the people will reap the reward directly in greatly increased efficiency in government and in our war making.

A vast improvement in the way of doing things has been noted since the Senate and House began its military investigation. And since Representative Shallenberger suggested shooting for medical officers who were

SORE THROAT
or Tonsillitis—gargle with warm, salt water then apply—
VEE VAPOR



TELLS WOMEN OF U. S. TO REMAIN AT HOME
Mrs. F. S. Aldrich Says They're Taking Food from French.

"The French people need every ounce of flour and every bit of meat they can get. It is the greatest need of the French people. In search of adventure to take that food out of their mouths."
This statement was made here yesterday by Mrs. F. S. Aldrich, of Bloomington, Ill., who urged that women who have no real mission abroad stay at home. Mrs. Aldrich is just back from France, where she spent the last ten years.
"Many American women went to France in the early days of the war and went into such work as the ambulance service, because it was 'chic,'" continued Mrs. Aldrich. "But they soon fell out of the ranks, and now the French women and the few American women who are specially fitted for the work are sincere, splendid and everything that is courageous and fine."
"In the hospitals for the wounded the nurses show such devotion as they might give their own brothers. In addition to the strain of routine work, these women have created attractive gardens for their patients."
Another feature of the women's work in France is the care of orphans of the war, who are in the charge of nurses and sisters formerly connected with the Catholic churches from which thousands of priests have gone into the army.

grossly derelict in duty there are some of those who have increased their vigil perceptibly.
Senator Smith called attention to the fact—by his way of figuring—that six tons of coal cost \$25.00 in the city of Grand Rapids, Mich., last Monday. He says it would have taken six tons more of coal to operate the factories than to close them down.

A bill introduced by Senator Reed gives the Postmaster General the authority to cancel or readjust a screen-wagon contract made with any driver or other of Kansas City. What do you think of that—requiring Congressional attention at the rate of \$200 a minute to take up such a thing.

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